

April - 06

## TNPSC BITS

- ❖ Over 7,100 Olive Ridley Sea turtle hatchlings have been released into the sea from Kodyakarai and Arcotthurai hatcheries in the Vedaranyam Wildlife Range in Nagapattinam district.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu Chief Minister announced that a statue of German philosopher and socialist leader Karl Marx in Chennai, and a memorial building for the late All India Forward Bloc leader P.K. Mookiah Thevar in Usilampatti in Madurai district.
- ❖ The first-ever calf born through In-Vitro Fertilized Embryo Transfer (IVF-ET) technology in Puducherry has been delivered at Kanuvapet village near Villianur.
- ❖ The Warangal Chapata chilli, or as it is called Tomato chilli, from Telangana has been granted the Geographical Indication tag by the GI Registry, Chennai.
- ❖ The biannual Army Commanders' Conference was held in New Delhi.
- ❖ The famous Saudagari block print, prepared by the artisans of Jamalpur in Ahmedabad in Gujarat, has received the GI tag for its unique craftsmanship.
- ❖ N Chandrasekaran, the chairman of Tata Sons, has joined the International Monetary Fund managing director's Advisory Council on Entrepreneurship and Growth.
- ❖ India finished the Asian Wrestling Championships 2025 in Amman, Jordan, with 10 medals- 1 gold, 3 silver, 6 bronze.
- ❖ The International Fact-Checking Day is observed on April 2 to detect the misinformation and combat the spread of false information online.

## TAMIL NADU NEWS

### 6 New GI tags – Tamilnadu

- ❖ Six more products, unique to Tamil Nadu state were accorded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- ❖ They are Panruti Jackfruit, Panruti Cashew, Puliyanakudi Acid Lime, Virudhu Nagar Samba Vathal, Chettikulam Small Onion, and Ramanadu Chithiraikar Rice.
- ❖ These new additions are taking the total number of GI products in the state to 69.

- ❖ Tamil Nadu has the second highest number of GI products, next only to Uttar Pradesh, which has 79 products.

**6 மண்சார் உணவுப் பொருட்களுக்கு புவிசார் குறியீடு!**

தமிழ்நாட்டில், செட்டிக்குளம் சின்ன வெங்காயம், பண்ருட்டி பலாப்பழம், பண்ருட்டி முந்திரி, புளியங்குடி எலுமிச்சை, விருதுநகர் சம்பா வத்தல், ராமநாதபுரம் சித்திரை கார் அரிசி ஆகிய 6 பொருட்களுக்கு புவிசார் குறியீடு அங்கீகாரம் வழங்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

**இதன்மூலம், தமிழ்நாட்டின் புவிசார் குறியீடு அங்கீகாரம் பெற்ற பொருட்களின் எண்ணிக்கை 69 ஆக உயர்ந்துள்ளது.**

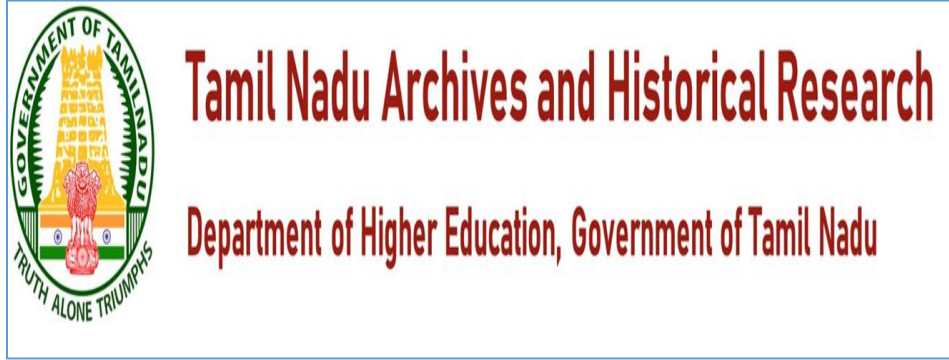
### **Thooimai Mission 2025**



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government has issued an order to form a State-level mission titled 'Thooimai Mission' for sustainable waste management in the State.
- ❖ It also ordered that the Clean Tamil Nadu Company Limited (CTCL) to be brought under this mission.
- ❖ The mission would provide leadership, policy direction, framing and approving guidelines besides inter-department coordination.
- ❖ The Chief Secretary will be the Chairperson of the State-Level Executive Committee.
- ❖ The district-Level Thooimai Committee, with Collector as Chairperson, shall act as the intermediary governance unit.
- ❖ There will also be a Block-Level/Urban Local Body-Level Thooimai Committee.

- ❖ The Clean Tamil Nadu Company Limited (CTCL) is now under the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department.
- ❖ It will be transferred to the Special Programme Implementation Department.

### **TN Council of Historical Research**



- ❖ The Tamil Nadu Archives and Historical Research has nominated a vice-chairperson and five members to the Tamil Nadu Council of Historical Research.
- ❖ The council will be headed by the vice-chairperson and include five eminent scholars.
- ❖ The commissioner of Tamil Nadu Archives and Historical Research will be the vice-chairman.
- ❖ The other members are –
  - R. Balakrishnan, eminent scholar, researcher in archaeology;
  - S. Jayaseelan Stephen, eminent scholars and researcher in colonial history;
  - K.A. Manikumar, eminent scholar and researcher in freedom movement;
  - B. Kolappan, journalist, (senior deputy editor, The Hindu), and
  - A.R. Venkatachalapathy, professor in the Madras Institute of Development Studies.

### **New Integrated Agriculture Extension Centres**

- ❖ The Tamil Nadu government would set up seven new Integrated Agriculture Extension Centres at a total cost of ₹25 crore.
- ❖ The centres would come up at Mailam and Kandamangalam in Villupuram district, Thiruchuli in Virudhunagar district, Karambakkudi in Pudukkottai district, Melpuram in Kanniyakumari district, Sholinghur in Ranipet district and Thali in Krishnagiri district.

- ❖ The Integrated Agriculture Extension Centres now houses the Department of Agriculture, Horticulture, Agri Marketing and Agri Business, Seed Certification and Agricultural Engineering Departments under a single roof.



## NATIONAL NEWS

### MGNREGA Wage Hike 2025-26

State/Union Territory	Wage Rate (Rs. per day)
Andhra Pradesh	307
Arunachal Pradesh	241
Assam	256
Bihar	255
Chhattisgarh	261
Goa	378
Gujarat	288
Haryana	400
Himachal Pradesh (Non-scheduled areas)	247
Himachal Pradesh (Scheduled areas)	309
Jammu and Kashmir	272

- ❖ The Centre has hiked the wages under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in the range of 2-7% for the financial year 2025-26.



- ❖ In absolute terms, the NREGS wages have seen a hike in the range of Rs 7 to Rs 26.
- ❖ The NREGS wages have been hiked by ₹7 in the five states, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, and Telangana.
- ❖ The highest increase of Rs 26 has been recorded in Haryana.
- ❖ This will be first time the NREGS wages will touch Rs 400 per day in any state.
- ❖ In the current financial year (2024-25), Goa had seen the maximum hike of 10.56% over its previous year (2022-23) wage rate; Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand recorded the lowest 3.04%.
- ❖ Tamil Nadu's wage was increased 5.33% from Rs.319 to Rs.336/day.

### **Waqf Amendment Bill 2025**

<b>THE WAQF AMENDMENT BILL</b>		
Opens Waqf governance to all stakeholders: <b>Aghakhani, Bohras, Pasmanda Muslims &amp; women</b>	<b>Mandatory registration</b> of Waqf properties to prevent misuse	Ensures at least 2 women members in Waqf Boards for <b>gender-inclusive decisions</b>

- ❖ Parliament cleared the Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2025, after nearly 14-hour debate in Rajya Sabha by 128 members voting in favour and 95 against.
- ❖ The Lok Sabha passes Waqf Bill after 12-hour debate with 288 members vote in favour, 232 against.
- ❖ It got the assent of President Droupadi Murmu on April 05<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Last year, the Bill was referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) chaired by Jagdambika Pal for the scrutiny.
- ❖ The new Bill, which seeks to amend the Waqf Act, 1995, governs administration of waqf properties in India.
- ❖ It streamlines Waqf property management while safeguarding heritage sites and individual property rights.

- ❖ All information regarding waqf properties must be uploaded to a designated portal within six months of the law's enactment.
- ❖ Additionally, any new waqf property registrations must be submitted exclusively through this portal to the respective Waqf Boards.
- ❖ Section 40 of the Waqf Act empowers the Waqf Board to decide if a property is Waqf property.
- ❖ The decision of the Board would be final unless it is revoked or modified by the Waqf Tribunal.
- ❖ The Bill extends this power, which currently lies with the Waqf Tribunal, to the District Collector.
- ❖ Any government property identified or declared as Waqf property, before or after the commencement of the Act, shall not be deemed to be a Waqf property.
- ❖ The 1995 Act prescribes a survey of auqaf (plural of waqf) by a Survey Commissioner appointed by the state government.
- ❖ The amendment Bill replaces the Survey Commissioner with the District Collector or any other officer not below the rank of a Deputy Collector duly nominated by the Collector.
- ❖ The Bill proposes allowing a non-Muslim Chief Executive Officer, and at least two non-Muslim members to be appointed by the state government to the Waqf Boards at the state level.
- ❖ The Bill proposes to delete the Section 107 of the 1995 law that had made the Limitation Act, 1963 inapplicable to Waqf properties.

### **Child Adoptions in India 2024-25**

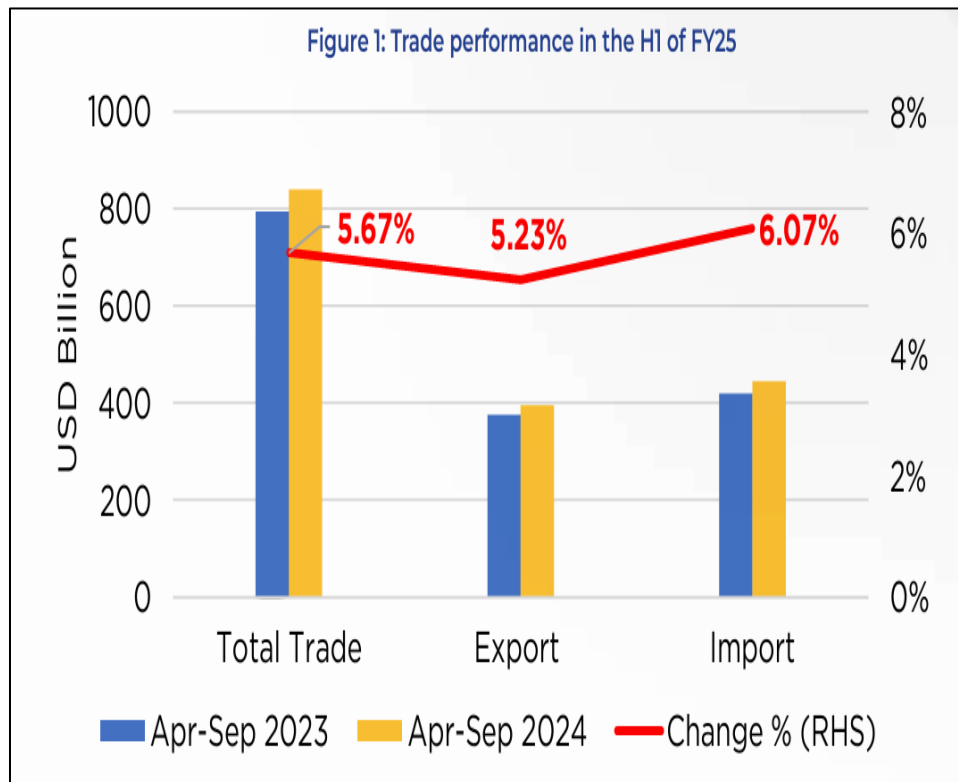


- ❖ India has seen a record number of child adoptions, 4,515 in FY 2024-25, the highest in the last 12 years.

- ❖ Out of the total adoptions, 3,950 were domestic, while 565 were international.
- ❖ The previous highest record was in 2012-13, with 4,354 adoptions.
- ❖ The Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) has introduced 8,598 newly identified children into the adoption pool.
- ❖ Additionally, 245 new adoption agencies were set up in coordination with state governments to streamline the adoption process.
- ❖ According to the CARA, over 33,000 prospective adoptive parents are currently registered, while only around 2,141 children are legally available for adoption.

## ECONOMY NEWS

### Trade watch quarterly report



- ❖ NITI Aayog launched the NITI Aayog Trade Watch Quarterly Report in New Delhi.
- ❖ The quarterly report has been published for the second quarter from July to September of the financial year 2025.
- ❖ The report also highlights that India's total trade grew by 5.67 percent in April-September 2024 compared to the same period in 2023.
- ❖ The exports rising 5.23 percent and imports increasing 6.07 percent year on year.

- ❖ The report states that the country's merchandise exports have remained stable, averaging 35.4 billion dollars per month over the past six months.
- ❖ Imports averaged 57.8 billion dollars, except for a surge in August.

## IMPORTANT DAYS

### World Autism Awareness Day 2025 - April 02

- ❖ The day aims to raise awareness of autism and discuss the rights of those who have the condition.
- ❖ Autism is a developmental disorder that impacts a person's capacity for social interaction and communication.
- ❖ Eugen Bleuler, a psychiatrist, coined the term "autism" in 1911.
- ❖ The theme for 2025 is "Advancing the Neurodiversity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)."

